

—For President—  
General Zachary Taylor.

"Between my government and a foreign nation,  
I never ask a question: MY GOVERNMENT  
IS ALWAYS RIGHT."—Gen. Taylor.

FAYETTE:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1847.

## STATE CONVENTION OF THE WHIGS.

We have received letters from various quarters of the State, written by zealous and influential Whigs, urging upon us to bring forward a proposition for a Whig Convention, with a view to the nomination of candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and an Electoral ticket for President and Vice President, and to concert such measures as may be necessary for the great canvass of 1848. We have refrained from saying anything upon this head until now, in the expectation that the State Central Committee, appointed by the Whigs of the last Legislature, would feel themselves called upon to propose a time and place for the meeting of the Convention, and also to suggest, by an address, or otherwise, the basis of the Convention. This, we have no doubt, they will yet do, but the occasion is an opportune one to give our views of the claims upon, and the duties of, the Whigs of the State in the approaching canvass. No one can doubt that the year of 1848 is to be a year of continued and extraordinary political excitement, and he best performs his duty to the country who prepares himself for it.

We are decidedly in favor of such a convention. We desire to see the Whigs propose candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State. We desire to see, as we know we shall see, a TAYLOR ELECTORAL TICKET nominated, and that, too, composed of such men as will go heart and hand to the work, and will do justice to the character and patriotism and brilliant deeds of the old Hero. In every quarter from which we have accounts, the Whigs are anxious that General Taylor should be their standard bearer, and there are thousands of honest minded men of other parties, who, relying on what they know of his past life, and his unbending honesty, will gladly sustain him for the Presidency. These things accomplished, so far as the general election is concerned, we hope that the several Congressional districts, and every county in the State, will then put forward candidates for each district and for both branches of the Legislature. No Congressional District should be without its candidate, nor should any county be without a Whig Ticket for the Legislature. In this way, when the time comes for action, we can all work harmoniously together, and under the TAYLOR BANNER we can give his opponents such a race as they have not known for many years. We venture to suggest to the State Central Committee, that an early day in the coming year should be fixed for the Convention, and that Booneville is, on some accounts, to be preferred over any other town, as the place of meeting. But as to these things, they will of course exercise their discretion.

We hope to hear an expression of opinion from all the Whig papers in the State on this proposition. It will require their co-operation and advice, in order to carry it along successfully, and the sooner they speak out the earlier will preparations be made for the contest.—*Republican.*

The foregoing suggestions and views, meet with our decided approbation; and, so far as we have heard an expression of opinion, with the approbation of the friends of General Taylor, generally.

The canvass of 1848 will be an exciting and important one, and the Republican will and truly remarks, "he best performs his duty to his country who prepares himself for it." It is time that the initiatory steps were taken. It takes time to effect an efficient organization, and without this, thoroughly and unanimously, no political party can hope to succeed. Of this fact we have abundant evidence. Our own party has succeeded, and will succeed, under it; without it, they have failed, and will fail again. Our opponents are making preparations for organization, and as is always the case with them, they will go into the canvass thoroughly organized. They will do this whether it be done by us or not. To beat them, it must be done, and it behooves all who are in favor of electing General Taylor President, and giving him proper support after elected, to set themselves about it.

That General Taylor will be our next President, but few doubt. A Whig Congress will be essential to make his administration effective, and to give him this, Congressional and Legislative elections will have to be looked to. Thorough organization will enable us to bring our full strength to bear in favor of our Congressional, Legislative, and County candidates; hence it is of the utmost importance, and we hope every friend of General Taylor—every opponent of Polkism—every one who desires a change in the administration of our national affairs, will consider it his business and act accordingly.

GEN. TAYLOR IN BALTIMORE.—A convention of Whigs in Baltimore, met to nominate candidates for the October election, passed resolutions nominating Gen. Taylor for the Presidency. The resolutions were adopted by acclamation, and declare that they consider General Taylor already in the field as the People's Candidate for the Chief Magistracy of this nation, and as such, entitled to the support of every true Whig in the land.

## ARMY NEWS.

We have nothing definite from General Scott. No certain information has been received of his advance from Puebla, but it is highly probable that he has marched upon the city of Mexico. The report that Gen. Scott had taken the city of Mexico is not credited.

It is with great difficulty communications can be kept up between Vera Cruz and the army. The guerrillas are daily becoming more bold and desperate, allowing neither Americans nor Mexicans, except of their own stamp, to pass in safety.

We shall look for important news from Gen. Scott, by every mail.

## UNIVERSITY.

The Examination of the Students of the University took place last week, in the presence of a large audience. The Exercises, we understand, were both entertaining and satisfactory, to the friends and patrons of the Institution.

The following students received the degree of Bachelor of Arts—viz: John Arthur, Alexander F. Donny, Lewis B. Daugherty, Robert W. McDaniel, Henry C. Meredith, James H. Parker, Thomas B. Reed, Frederick Russell, James B. Thomas, Milton G. Young, Middleton G. Singleton.

The Degree of A. M. was conferred on Robert A. Grant and Wm. P. Thomas, of Columbia, alumni of the Institution. The degree of A. M. was also conferred on Rev. Nathan Scarritt, of this place, an alumnus of McKendree College, Ills. The honorary Degree of L. L. D. was conferred on Hon. Thomas H. Benton; of M. D. on Dr. Wm. Jewell, of Columbia; and of D. D. on Rt. Rev. Cicero T. Hawkes, of St. Louis.

ILLINOIS TROOPS.—The 2d regiment of the new requisition is now full, rendezvoused at Alton, whence it takes its departure for the seat of war in time to reach Vera Cruz by the first September. The field officers are—

Col. Collins, of Jo Daviess county.

Lieut. Col. Hicks, and Major Livingston of Jefferson county.

"Got a paper to spare?"

"Yes, Sir: here's one of our last. Would you not like to subscribe, sir, and take it regularly?"

"I would—but I am too poor."

That man had just returned from the circus: cost 50 cents; lost time from his farm, 75 cents; whisky, judging from the smell, at least 25 cents—making a dollar and a half actually thrown away, and then begging for a newspaper, alleging that he was too poor to pay for it!

That's what we call "saving at the spile and wasting at the bung-hole."

ELECTIONS.—But few returns have been received from any of the recent State elections. Iowa has elected democratic Congressmen, and a Legislature of the same stamp, which will give two more locofoco United States Senators.

Major John P. Gaines, now a prisoner of war in the city of Mexico, has been elected to Congress from Kentucky.

Robert Dale Owen, one of the leading locofoco lights of Indiana, has been defeated.

Next week we hope to be able to give full returns from Indiana, Tennessee and Kentucky.

The editor of the Metropolitan is improving. A few years hence, when Col. Benton's rotundity shall have increased by the sumptuous fare of the Metropolitan, and the editor shall have grown a little more lank, in his lick-spittle labors, he will be able to ensconce himself in the habitation his longing eyes are so intently fixed upon.

COL. FREMONT.—Gen. Kearney has placed Col. Fremont under arrest, for disobedience of orders, and he is now on his way home to undergo his trial. Commodore Stockton is also on his way home.—This news is brought by recent arrivals from Oregon. The Emigrants were getting along well. The party which came in were troubled some by the Indians, who are at war with each other.

"DEPREDACTIONS OF THE SOUTH-WEST," by Charles Sumnerfield, of Texas, splendidly illustrated.

We are indebted to the author for a copy of this book. It is published in mailable form, at fifteen cents a copy, and contains the lives of several of the most notorious Regulators and Moderators of Texas and Arkansas. It can be procured of W. H. GRAHAM, Tribune Buildings, New York.

## WHIG MEETING IN BOONE.

The Whigs of Boone county held a mass meeting last week, at which resolutions were passed, nominating General Taylor for the Presidency. Messrs. Jewell, Rollins, Switzer, Young and Forshoe, addressed the meeting, which adjourned by giving three long, loud, and enthusiastic cheers for Old Rough and Ready. Boone is in the field for the largest Taylor majority in the State. Will she give it?

The Organ comes to us in a new dress. Losing the post office printing has improved its appearance very much.

## COL. HUMPHREY MARSHALL'S SPEECH.

At a barbecue given to the Kentucky volunteers, near Jeffersontown, on the 10th ult., Col. Humphrey Marshall was called upon to respond to the complimentary address from Gen. Pilcher. This he did in an eloquent and noble manner. He availed himself of the occasion to speak of Gen. Taylor, as he appeared to him, at the head of the army, on the field of battle, and in social life. The picture is a charming one, and will be read with interest by all admirers of the old Hero.

After alluding, in terms of commendation, to the conduct of his own regiment, he made a touching reference to the Kentucky regiment which had been deprived of its field officers in the battle of Buena Vista, and then said:

But there is a man who has taken part in this Mexican war, and who has been constantly engaged where there was found a post of danger, for whom, to day, no festive board is spread, and around whom cluster none of the sweets of home, the smiles of family and friends. To that brave man, amidst all these congratulations, the heart of every volunteer will turn as does the needle to the pole, because, in the hours when festivity and mirth excite the finer feelings of the heart, we naturally recur to the absent friends whose presence would fill the measure of our happiness.

He is a western man—a western pioneer—reared in this country and at all intents a true Kentuckian. I might, said Col. M., draw his picture to your mind's eye, as, in the prime of youth, he stood among the burning timbers of Fort Harrison, foiling his savage and incendiary foe by the exertion of a genius whose facility of resource amidst dangers most appalling first attracted the attention of the Government; or, as he appeared before the blazing hammocks of Okochoebe, the very impression of intrepid daring and personal gallantry; or as he hero around whose furrowed brow are encircled the laurels of Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey, and Buena Vista; but it was not in the light of a military chieftain merely that he most attracted my attention, or won upon my admiration. Exhibitions of dazzling personal adventure and brilliant military exploits may be furnished from the history of hundreds of the officers of our gallant army. I could sketch the lamented Ridgely as bravely he drew the fire of La Vega's battery—McClung, as sternly he led through the deadly embrasures at Monterey—or McKee and Hardin and Clay as gallantly they charged the enemy on the field of Buena Vista, and their illustrations of personal courage could not be excelled. Harney, at the head of his bold dragoons, forcing the heights of Cerro Gordo, and boldly dashing up the precipitous steep, sword in hand, until the work of the sabre overcame the fire of artillery, and the effect of position, completely fills our idea of chivalry.

Wool—the gallant Wool—riding in the front and cheering on the columns, catching with eagle eye the first indication of an advantage to be gained or a reverse to be avoided, and all the while exhibiting on his features the calmness of the courage and the devotion of patriotism, as, on the field of Buena Vista, he proved that, with the snows of half a century on his head, the fires of youth yet glowed with undiminished ardor, realizes all I have conceived of the hero. Indeed I must consume the day in specifying instances, suggested by my own recollection, of officers and men who have illustrated by their actions all our conceptions of courage, personal daring, or chivalric adventure.

I could sketch the person to whom I have alluded so as to present him in the light of a mere military chieftain on the field of Buena Vista, and he will equal, if not surpass, any of the instances we have suggested. Fancy a man turned on the downward path of life, mounted upon a white war horse, whose arching neck seems to spurn the earth over which his feet proudly tread, and behold, around him, a gallant staff, in which is centered genius of the highest order, with demeanor the most gentlemanly, and modesty the most attractive. See him as he calmly contemplates the approach of an enemy more than four times outnumbering his own untired army of volunteer soldiery.

His adversary, the President of the Republic of Mexico, is recognised as a tactician of consummate skill—the hope of his country in the day of her extremity. He brings to the field an army disciplined under his own eye, and declared by him to be the best equipped and most complete that Mexico has held in service since the era of independence. Onward they moved in solid masses, and it would seem the madness of infatuation to essay resistance to their progress.

What are the means in the hands of the American leader? Here and there, judiciously posted, are a few regiments of ragged volunteers, without uniforms and without music, to enliven or cheer them on. They have now before them for the first time the field of battle, and when they observe the odds to which they are exposed, hope scarcely whispers of success, though their tongues are ready with the shout of "victory or death." But will they, who are now so eager for the onset, withstand the furious charge and the deadly encounter with superior force? This is the problem to be solved. If the American leader shall withdraw his forces, his country would justify the movement, and his own reputation will be saved from the blight of a single defeat in arms! But—no. He throws all upon the hazard of the die, and determines to repose upon the valor of the youths who come from the same great West which nurtured his own boyhood, and amongst whose forests his own character was formed. The fight begins.

His staff fly over the field almost with the rapidity of thought. Sword in hand he commands column after column into action, and so arranges the evolutions of his various forces as to present to the pressing masses of Mexico effectual resistance, whithersoever they drive their divisions upon the American positions. Battery after battery of dread artillery sends its sheets of flame and iron hail, and the earth begins to show the dreadful character of the conflict. The weight of the enemy turns his left flank. His centre is attacked, and it would seem that no energy could save the army. Still he moves not. His dispositions become more active, and he faces the foe in his new positions. Heaven, at this moment, seems to mingle in the strife. The driving rain chills every fibre of the body—lightning plays over the scene of blood, among the bleak crags of the Sierra roll in union the thunders of God and man. Now then for a last dead struggle! Onward! still fly the banners of Mexico, and with the shout of triumph half-breathed from their lips, furiously forward press her heavy masses of furious soldiery. The rattle of musketry—the crash of the deadly shell, as it scatters death amid the serried squares—the clash of arms and impetuous charge of horsemen, as amidst dust and smoke they give and take the sabre stroke—the flutter of pennons and banners—the hurrahs

of ascending soldiery—the shrieks of the wounded and the moans of the dying—the rapid course—the earnest prayer—the shouts of victory, as he flitted to and fro from army to army—all surround that hero warrior. Though batteries speed their whistling shot at his person, and his garments are burnt and rent by powder and ball, yet he moves not; but reizes, with unclouded intellect and with calmness unparalleled, the presiding genius of this scene. He has not miscalculated his own force or that of his adversary, but, by his own steadiness of nerve and the indomitable energy with which he carries out his own purposes, he has rolled back the clouds which hovered over his little army, and with coming down weakens under a bright sun to an unparalleled victory and to immortal fame! Here is a picture for you of the military chief of which the original is Zachary Taylor. No drapery surrounds it, spread by fancy; the coloring is furnished alone by truth.

Here are the exhibitions at once of courage, energy, and military skill of the highest order—that skill which consists in a knowledge of his own army and of the moral and natural situation of that of his adversary—that skill which teaches the leader when and how to fight, and conquer, which, after all, is the consummation of the military art. His countrymen are accustomed to look upon General Taylor in the light of a military character alone, and, indeed, his operations, and the manner in which, without once trusting to luck, he has conducted those operations to glorious results, indicate such system in the management of professional business, such large experience, such a high order of intelligence, such courage and perseverance in positions of danger, such energy of character and steadiness of purpose, as must stamp him at once as a soldier of most commanding talents, and as an extraordinary man; but it is not to these traits I would refer, as I before stated, for the noblest features of his character, or upon which I have myself lingered with most pleasure, when contemplating him. Those qualities may make a great captain, but they do not make the better character—a good man.

My service in Mexico, frequently brought me near to General Taylor, and I was industrious in my examination of the actual character of the man whenever opportunity was presented. I have no motive to deceive you, and you must take the impressions I received for what they are worth. The manner in which politicians, in this our day, are accustomed to speak of men, and especially of such as may be elevated to political power, is so utterly extravagant, so profoundly hyperbolic, that, after they take hold of the character of Gen. Taylor, no description I could give would be recognised as bordering on truth. Glowing oratory will seize the achievements of the General, and dress them off in all the frippery of metaphor; and I doubt whether the man will ever be regarded, or whether he would know his own likeness. I have seen the pictures of him in books and pamphlets, and in print. Some have the head of Napoleon, others that of Caesar, and some are unlike any original I have ever beheld, but none like the General I know. So it will be with the pictures the politicians will execute. If I desired to express, in the fewest words, what manner of man General Taylor is, I should say, that, in his manners and his appearance, he is one of the common people of this country. He might be transferred from his tent at Monterey to this assembly, and he would not be remarked among this crowd of respectable old farmers as a man at all distinguished from those around him. Perfectly temperate in his habits; perfectly plain in his dress; entirely unassuming in his manners, he appears to be an old gentleman in fine health, whose thoughts are not turned upon his personal appearance, and who has no point about him to attract particular attention. In his intercourse with men, he is free, frank, and manly. He plays off none of the airs of some great men, whom I have met. There is an artificial dignity some men wear, to add to a moral stature which conscience whispers to them need support from mannerism. Some, who would be deemed great, preserve their reputation by a studied gravity, which seems to say—

"I am Sir Oracle;

When I open my mouth let no dog bark."

But a close and critical examination of these always discovers fissures in the character fatally blemishing the perfection which they pretend to, and preserve the appearance of, by keeping at a distance from their peers. Gen. Taylor is not of this class of great men. Any one may approach him as nearly as can be desired, and the more closely his character is examined the greater beauties it discloses.

1. He is an honest man. I do not mean by that merely that he does not cheat or lie. I mean that he is a man who never dissembles and who scorns all disguises. He neither acts a part among his friends for effect nor assumes to be what he is not. Whenever he speaks you hear what he honestly believes, and, whether right or wrong, you feel assurance that he expressed his real opinion. His dealings with men have been of a most varied character, and I never have heard his honest name stained by the breath of the slightest reproach.

2. He is a man of rare good judgment. By no means possessed of that brilliancy of genius which attracts by its flashes, yet like the meteor, expires even while you gaze upon it; by no means enjoying that combination of talent which penetrates instantly the abstrusest subject and measures its length and breadth as if by intuition. Gen. Taylor yet has that order of intellect which more slowly but quite as surely masters all that it engages and examines all the combinations of which the subject is susceptible. When he announces his conclusions you feel confident that he well understands the ground upon which he plants himself, and you rest assured that the conclusion is the deduction of skill and sound sense faithfully applied to the matter in hand. It is this order of mind which has enabled him, unlike many other officers of the army, to attend to the wants of his family by so using the means at his disposal as to surround himself in his old age with a handsome private fortune and to be blessed with an almost perfect constitution. I would to-day prefer his advice in any matter of private interest—would take his opinion as to the value of an estate—would rather follow his suggestions in a scheme where property or capital was to be embarked—would pursue confidently his counsel where the management of an army was involved or the true honor of any country was at stake, than that of any other man I have ever known. I regard his judgment as being first-rate at every thing from a horse trade up to a trade in human life upon the field of battle.

3. He is a firm man, and possessed of great energy of character. It was a waste of time to dwell upon these traits of his character, for his military career has afforded such abundant examples of his exercise of these qualities as to render them familiar to every citizen who has ever read or heard of the man. In his army they are daily exhibited, and stand conspicuously displayed in every order which emanates from his pen.

4. He is a benevolent man. This quality has

been uniformly displayed in his treatment of the prisoners who have been placed in his power by the vicissitudes of war. No man who had seen him after the battle of Buena Vista, as he ordered the wagons to bring in the Mexican wounded from the battle field, and had heard him, as he at once cautioned his own men, that the wounded were to be treated with mercy, could doubt that he was alive to all the kinder impulses of our nature. The indiscretions of youth he chides with parental kindness, yet, with the decision which forbids their repetition, and the young men of his army feel that it is a pleasure to gather around him, because they know that they are as welcome as though they visited the hearthstone of their own home, and they are always as freely invited to partake of what he has to offer, as if they were under the roof of a father. His conduct in sparing the deserters, who were captured at Buena Vista, exhibited at the same time, in a remarkable manner, his benevolence and his judgment. "Don't shoot them," said he; "the worst punishment I will inflict is to return them to the Mexican army." When Napoleon said to one of his battalions, "Inscribe it on their flag: 'No longer of the army of Italy,'" he used an expression which was deemed so remarkable, that history preserved it for the admiration of future ages, yet it was not more forcible as an illustration of his power in touching the springs of human action than is that of Gen. Taylor illustrative of the manner in which he would make an example for the benefit of the army.

5. He is a man of business habits. I never have known Gen. Taylor to give up a day to pleasure. I have never visited his quarters without seeing evidence of the industry with which he toiled. If his talented adjutant was surrounded by papers, so was the general. And though he would salute a visitor kindly, and bid him with familiar grace to amuse himself until he was at leisure, he never would interrupt the duties which his station called him to perform.—When these were closed for the day, he seemed to enjoy, to a remarkable degree, the vicinity of young officers, and to be glad to mingle in their society. As a conversationalist, I do not think Gen. Taylor possesses great power. He uses few words, and expresses himself with energy and force, but not fluently. His language is select. I would say, however, from my knowledge of the man, that he is entirely capable of producing anything in the shape of an order or letter which has ever appeared over his signature; and in saying so much, I understand myself as asserting that he is a master of his mother tongue, and can write about as effectively and handsomely as he can fight. Such, then, is the picture of the man—not of the general—who won upon my esteem. I am not in the habit of eulogising men, and have indulged on this occasion because I desire to describe to you, with the exactness of truth, those qualities which, combined in Gen. Taylor, made him appear to me as a first-rate model of a true American character. Others will dwell upon the chivalry he has so often displayed and his greatness so conspicuously illustrated upon the field of battle. I formed my ideas of the man when he was free from duty, and had no motive to appear in any other light than such as was thrown upon him by nature, education and principles.

## LATEST FROM SANTA FE.

## MURDER OF AMERICANS—CHASTISEMENT OF THE MURDERERS—ANTICIPATED INSURRECTION.

From the Platte Argus Extra—August 7th, 1847.

From the following, for which we are indebted to the office of the Western Herald, it will be seen that matters of great interest have, and probably will, take place in Santa Fe.

We are indebted to Mr. McCarty of Lexington, and Mr. Coulter of St. Louis, who arrived at Fort Leavenworth last evening, for late and highly interesting intelligence from New Mexico and the plains. They left Santa Fe on the 5th of July. All was quiet at that time, though from the increased boldness and impudence of the Mexicans, fears were generally entertained that another insurrection was about to break out.

They arrived at Las Vegas on the 8th, where they learned the following interesting particulars. It seems that on the night of the 26th of June, the horses belonging to Capt. Horine's Company of mounted men, which was stationed under Maj. Edmondson at Las Vegas, were stolen, and that on the 28th Lieutenant Brown, with privates McClanahan and Charles Quessenberry, together with a Spaniard as a guide went forth in pursuit of them. Not returning on the following day as they intended, it was suspected that they had met with foul play.

On the morning of the 5th of July, a Spanish woman came in and stated that three Americans and one Spaniard had been murdered and burnt. Maj. E. immediately put out a picket guard, with orders to permit no one to come in, unless they were brought to him. On the same day, Wm. Cox, a private in Capt. Holloway's company, while out on a hunt, discovered three Mexicans endeavoring to keep out of his sight. His suspicions being aroused, he captured them and brought them into camp. They were examined separately by Major E. but being unable to obtain any thing satisfactory from them, one of them was hung several times, when let down the 3d time, he stated that at mass on the previous Sunday, he heard that 3 Americans and one Spaniard had been murdered and burnt near Las Vegas, when this confession was extorted, Maj. E. immediately ordered his men to be prepared for marching at 12 o'clock that night. Accordingly at the time appointed the troops, numbering 29 mounted, and 33 infantry, with one 12 pound howitzer, took up the line of march, with the expectation of reaching town by day light.

Maj. E. ascertaining that he would be unable to reach the place in time, went out in advance with the mounted men, leaving orders for the infantry and artillery to follow as rapidly as possible. Soon after night, he reached the town and dividing his men into two parties, one under his own command, the other under Capt. Horine, with Capt. Holloway he ordered the former to charge on the right and the latter on the left of the place, with their horses at full speed—unable to gain admittance on the left, Maj. E. went round the left, when he saw the Mexicans making for the mountains. He called to them to stop, and on their refusing he ordered his men to fire.—Six Mexicans were killed and two mortally wounded. The Mexicans report that ten were killed. The rest were captured and

in 15 minutes the town was taken, with 50 prisoners. After hanging one of them for a while, he informed them where the murdered men were burnt, and that Lieut. Brown having a cross on his neck, his body was not burnt, but secreted among the rocks. On going to the place, they found the body, but so putrid, that they were unable to tell how many wounds he had received. They also found the ashes of the others. A Mexican, who had secreted himself, supposing they were searching for him, leaped from his hiding place and started for the mountains, but was shot by one of our men. In the mean time Capt. Horine, after securing the prisoners, searched the houses and found in different places Lieut. B's holsters, pistols and bowie knife and some of his clothes.—A number of loaded guns were found secreted in the chimneys. They also found the holsters, pistols and clothing of the men who were lost in the fight of the 26th May on the Rio Colorado. At the time of this fight, it was supposed that the Mexicans alone composed the enemy, but from confessions, it appears the Camanches, Apaches and Kiowas were also engaged.

All the houses in which these articles were found, as well as those belonging to suspected individuals were set on fire and burnt to the ground, enough being left to shelter the women and children.

A few miles from Las Vegas, a mill belonging to the alcalde, who was known to have been concerned in the murders, was also consumed. The prisoners were then taken to Las Vegas.

Great excitement prevailed at Las Vegas. The Mexicans were on their watch, while our men slept on their guns and were continually expecting an outbreak.

While searching the house, Lieut. Layton found two letters, dated the 1st and 2d of July, which gave strong indications that an insurrection was on the eve of breaking out. Mr. Coulter who heard the letters read, informs us that they stated, that as soon as Captain Fischer's company left, "something must be done," and that spies were stationed at various points to watch our men. It was supposed by the interpreter that the men who led in the affair at Taos were the writers of these letters. They were written in an ambiguous style and no name was attached to them.

Before our informants left Las Vegas, an express arrived bringing direct news from Lieut. Col. Willock's grazing camp, which was stationed on the Seneca, about 18 miles from Taos. A grazing party of 31 belonging to Capt. Morin's company, being detached from the rest, was attacked on the morning of the 6th, two hours before day light, by about 200 Mexicans and Indians. Five of our men were killed, viz: Lieut. Larkin, Uriel Owens, Jno. A. Wright, Wm. S. Mason, and Wilkerson; 8 or nine were wounded. Their names are not known. The remainder of the men gave way and retired under the banks of the Seneca where they held their position, until Capt. Shepherd's company arrived and assisted them in driving off the enemy, who took with him all the stock, tents and clothing of the men. There were some among the enemy who could speak English well, with our men, and it was thought that they were not Mexicans.

While Messrs. McCarty and Coulter were at Moro, an express arrived from Col. Price, ordering all the grazing parties at that place to return to Santa Fe. We are informed that an express was also sent to Major Edmondson, directing him to hold himself in readiness to march at a moment's warning. We may look for important and exciting news by the next express from New Mexico.

Troops and trains were met almost daily on the plains. Most of them were getting along well. Lieut. Love was met near the crossing of the Cimaron. Easton's battalion was met at Fort Mann. Near Coon creek, a party of his men having crossed the Arkansas, were attacked by the Indians. Eight of whom were killed and three badly wounded. Captain Simmonds, of Gentry county, died at Council Grove, and a Captain in the Illinois troops, a short distance on this side. We did not learn his name. Captain Wood's company is on its return and will be here in about ten days.

[Since "setting up" the above we learn that the detachment of Capt. Morin's company which was attacked by the Mexicans on the Seneca, numbered but fifteen men, and that it was on the 9th ultimo.—*Editor Argus.*]

## DREADFUL AFFRAY AT LITTLE ROCK.—The Little Rock (Ark.) Banner of the 19th ult. has the following account of an affray which recently occurred in Saline county:

We are informed that, on Thursday last, an attempt to serve a peace process, deputy sheriff Berchfield, of Saline county, was killed by the elder of two brothers named Allen, upon whom the writ was to be served. As the Allens had threatened that they would not be arrested, the sheriff summoned a posse, and, entering the house, attempted to execute the process, when one of the Allens, both of whom were armed, lowered his rifle and shot the sheriff through the body, killing him upon the spot. Upon this, one of the posse, Mr. Low, drew a pistol and killed Allen, while the younger Allen fired upon Low, which was also fatal. Some one of the posse then shot the surviving Allen, the ball passing through his arm, shattering the bone and passing into his breast. The wound in his case was not mortal, and he made his escape, but the officers of justice are in pursuit of him, and he will no doubt be overhauled. We have heard no other particulars of the affair.

## TO POSTMASTERS AND OTHERS.

The law authorizing Postmasters to receive subscription money and forward orders on the Postmaster at the place where the paper is published, HAS BEEN REPEALED. No orders of this kind are now paid by the Postmaster on whom drawn.

The franking privilege, as heretofore having been re-established, the Postmaster can remit bank notes in pay for subscriptions.

MR. BANCROFT, made a speech at a meeting held in London on the 12th ult. to commemorate the introduction of printing into England, and to raise a monument to Caxton. Lord Morpeth presided at the meeting.